

Teaching for Understanding 1

Focus on Student Understanding

60 Inservice Points

Component No. 2-007-016

General Objective

1. Planning and teaching strategies that motivate and engage students in developing an understanding of important content.
2. Encourage deeper understanding for students, regardless of subject or learning level.

Specific Objectives

1. Educators will understand what understanding means and how it develops.
2. Educators will become familiar with and use the Teaching for Understanding framework, why and when it is useful and how it can be used.
3. Educators will create and sustain an online community to support their developing understanding.

Activities

1. Educators will examine how their current planning and instruction supports students' developing understanding and learn what further steps they can take to improve student performance.
2. Educators will explore the Teaching for Understanding framework and examine ways the framework supports teachers in planning, revising, and reviewing instruction to better help students develop genuine understanding of important content.
3. Educators will demonstrate ways to work supportively and effectively in an online environment, including the exchange of ideas and resources with other teaching professionals.
4. In each session, educators take on the following assignments:
 - Read new material on the course website in the "Session Note".
 - Complete readings and other assignments.
 - Post responses to assignments in the online course discussion.
 - Receive responses to work from coaches and online colleagues.
 - Respond to online colleagues.

Evaluation

1. Complete all written assignments
2. Complete the Reflection Guide and the Teaching for Understanding Framework
3. Complete a minimum of 35 participation hours

